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24. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein directing a plurality of mobile stations operating within the cellular wireless communication system to measure the strength of the broadcast channel and to measure the strength of respective serving traffic channels includes limiting such direction to mobile stations operating within a distance of the broadcast cell/sector.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 13-15, 17, 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chawla et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,700). The Examiner also rejected claims 2-4, 6, 8, 10-12, 16, 18-20, 24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chawla et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,700). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1 in its current form is directed to determining cell/sector pair radio frequency isolation values. In doing this one cell/sector is designated to transmit on a broadcast channel while other cells/sectors are precluded from transmitting on the broadcast channel. Mobile stations are then directed to measure the strength of BOTH the broadcast channel and their respective serving traffic channels. By using BOTH the measured strength of the broadcast channel AND the measured strengths of the serving traffic channels, the cell/sector pair radio frequency isolation values may be determined.

Chawla et al. addresses only attempting to characterize signal propagation for subsequent use in parameter setting. Chawla et al. discloses characterizing signal propagation by measuring the signal strengths of beacon transmissions by mobile units throughout the service area during their normal operation. With these signal strength measurements recorded, signal propagation can be

characterized during operation of the system and used to automatically update parameter settings for the system. A reading of Chawla et al. at column 2 line 39 to column 3 line 55 clearly shows these teachings.

Thus, while Chawla et al. concerns only the measurement of beacon strength, claim 1 requires the measurement of not only beacon strengths but also the measurement of serving traffic channel strengths. By measuring both of these signal strengths isolation values can be determined. For this reason Chawla et al. fails to anticipate or render obvious claim 1. For these same reasons Chawla et al. fails to anticipate or render obvious the other independent claims, claims 9 and 17, and the claims that depend from claims 1, 9, and 17. For these reasons all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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